

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL DANCE WEEK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring National Dance Week, which is being celebrated April 28 to May 4, to the attention of my colleagues.

National Dance Week is an annual celebration sponsored by the United Dance Merchants of America to increase public awareness and appreciation of dance. National Dance Week encourages all forms of dance including not only classical dance, but also lyrical, hip hop, ethnic, jazz, and modern. The goal of National Dance Week is to encourage growth and development of dance in America by raising the level of public consciousness and focus on the value and importance of the contributions of dance to our daily lives and culture.

Established 15 years ago, this celebration of dance has grown out of a grass roots campaign. Everyone who works on National Dance Week is a volunteer working to spread their love of dance to others. Today, a national steering committee enlists the talents of many prominent figures in dance manufacturing, publishing, worldwide dancing competitions, teachers, and choreographers. Regional managers are working with the local communities in order to coordinate events occurring during National Dance Week.

Local events are the core of National Dance Week because they bring the most recognition to the art of dance. Some dance schools are sending cards of congratulations as well as gift certificates for dance classes to the parents of new born babies in their communities. Other dance communities are holding demonstration classes in schools and community centers to showcase the different types of dance as well as a show much fun dancing can be. Other events include dance festivals and parades. There is also a nationwide poster contest for National Dance Week. In all, dance instructors across the country are working diligently to create an awareness of dance and to bring a new vision of dance to the American public.

In today's society it is important to give our children outlets to express their energy and creativity. Dance is just such an outlet. As Marianne Prinkey, the National Dance Week Chair, put it, "[Dance] enriches the body with discipline, activity and feelings."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the hard work that dancers, not only in New York City, but across the country have put into National Dance Week. Let us help them celebrate dance and the contributions that this wonderful art gives to society. Congratulations and best wishes to all for a most successful week and a most successful year of dance.

NAOMI FRANK

HON. ROBERT S. WALKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to bring to your attention a special constituent of mine, Naomi Frank, of West Chester, PA. Born in Sharpsville, PA, on April 29, 1915, Naomi Frank moved to Farrell, PA, when she was 3½ years old. From an early age, Naomi had learning impediments that would prevent her from keeping up with her classmates. After many starts in the public schools, her parents realized the problems and had Naomi enrolled in the Woods School in Langhorne, PA. Naomi then worked with Dr. Frederick Martin and participated in a speech seminar at Ithaca College in New York. While on her way home to Farrell, in August 1934, she was involved in a serious car accident.

After much rehabilitation, Naomi enrolled in 1938 to attend the Devereaux School where she would learn to be independent. As part of her education, Naomi learned to play the baritone D-flat horn and participated in the school band. The Devereaux School had a camp for its students on Emden Lake in the State of Maine. In 1942, 1943, 1944, and 1946, Naomi was selected as one of the young women to spend her summer in Maine. Naomi stayed at the Devereaux School working and learning until 1983, when she was forced to leave school because she could not earn enough to pay the tuition herself.

Upon leaving the Devereaux School, Naomi moved to Coatesville, then Brandamore, PA, and in 1990 she moved to the Wentworth Home in West Chester, PA—located in my congressional district. She took a job at the West Chester library, while also volunteering her time at the Chester County Hospital. In 1993, Naomi received her 500-hour volunteer pin and in 1995 her 1,000-hour volunteer pin.

In October 1987, Naomi Frank began to prepare for her bat mitzvah. She was encouraged to do that by Rabbi Charny, and on October 27, 1988 was bat mitzvahed. Currently, she has just completed her autobiography entitled "Book of My Life".

Naomi Frank, throughout her life, has shown that a strong will and hard work can improve not only one's own life, but the lives of others. Naomi Frank has overcome many obstacles in her life and in doing so has touched the lives of countless others. I rise today to salute Naomi Frank for her perseverance and determination for I believe she has been an example of self-reliance to many people.

TUNISIA AT 40

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, March 20, 1996 marks the 40th anniversary of the inde-

pendence of the Republic of Tunisia. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting the people of this important North African country on this significant milestone.

Tunisia, first, under President Bourguiba, and since 1987, under President Ben Ali, has played a key role in preserving peace and stability in often turbulent North Africa and in providing leadership for the entire Arab world.

This country of 9 million people is located between Libya and Algeria on the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. It has a tradition of playing an important regional role. For 11 years until 1990, Tunisia hosted the Arab League, and for 12 years from 1982 to 1994, Tunisia was the home of Yasir Arafat and the Palestine Liberation Organization. In that time, the Tunisians worked hard to moderate policies of the PLO and to promote the peace process.

More recently, Tunisia has been a leader in promoting the peace process. Tunisia was the first Arab state to host a U.N. multilateral meeting of the peace process and to welcome an official Israeli delegation. And on January 22 of this year, Israel and Tunisia agreed to establish diplomatic relations, and I understand that interests sections will open in Tunis and Tel Aviv by mid-April, 1996.

At home, Tunisia has been a leader in its region. Tunisia has taken steps toward democracy. It has opened up both its economy and its political system, despite the pressures of extremism with which Tunisia and its neighbors must contend. Tunisia's budget has the right priorities. Defense spending is reduced. Education is a top priority, and it is reflected in Tunisia's 60 percent literacy rate.

Tunisia still has some distance to go in achieving a full democracy and full protection of human rights. This year's Department of State human rights report notes that some serious problems remain. The government continued to stifle freedoms of speech, press, and association. Some improvement on human rights has occurred, and I hope that Tunisia will take note of these concerns and address them in a positive way in the months ahead.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join in saluting Tunisia for its moderation, its leadership, and its continued strong partnership with the United States. I hope that United States-Tunisian relations continue to expand and deepen and that Tunisia continues to grow as a leader in promoting peace, stability, and economic and political openness.

COMMEMORATING THE 70TH BIRTHDAY OF JAMES J. MANCINI

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 1996

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege to pay tribute to my good friend, Ocean County Freeholder and longtime mayor of Long Beach Township, James J. Mancini.

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